



NEWS RELEASE
*Office of the
United States Attorney
for the
District of Nebraska*
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June 3, 2010

United States Attorney Deborah R. Gilg and the United States Department of Agriculture announce the following information for the attention of the media:

Event Triggering this Release:

The Honorable Richard G. Kopf, United States District Judge in Lincoln, Nebraska, on June 3, 2010, sentenced Denise L. Schawang to 8 months of house arrest as a condition of 3 years probation following her conviction for wire fraud. Ms. Schawang was an employee of the Richardson County office of the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and, over a period of years, took out a series of price support loans for her family's farm. These loans were not repaid on time - so the full principle amount plus interest should have been paid when repayment was made. However, when they were repaid Schawang entered false date information into the FSA computer system. By entering false repayment dates she was able to repay the loans at less than their full principle amount and, also, avoid paying any interest on the loans. Ms. Schawang has since paid full restitution in the amount of \$44,435.00. Ms. Schawang was indicted by a federal grand jury in May, 2009, pled guilty in March, 2010, and was sentenced on June 3, 2010.

Name of Defendant: Denise L. Schawang

AKA:

Age: 45

City of Residence: Falls City, Nebraska

Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty: Wire Fraud - 0 - 20 years imprisonment; \$250,000 fine; 3 years term of supervised release, and \$100 special assessment.

Specific Location of Alleged Crime: Falls City, Nebraska

Location of Arrest: N/A

Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug: \$44,435.00

Others Charged in Same Scheme: None

Relevant Dates:

Date of Alleged Crime: 09/1999 to 03/2007

Federal Arrest Date: N/A

Date Complaint Issued: N/A

Indictment Returned Date: 05/21/2009

Initial Appearance Date: 06/18/2009

Plea or Trial and Date(s): 03/17/2010

Sentencing Date: 06/03/2010

Next Court Hearing Type and Date: N/A

Assigned Magistrate Judge: Cheryl R. Zwart

Held without Bond, or Released from Custody: Released

In Continuous Custody Since: N/A

Assigned District Court Judge: Richard Kopf

Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release: ALE